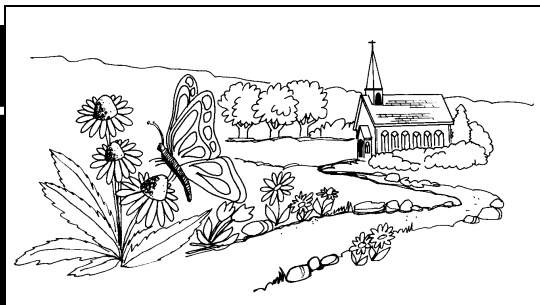


Valley Views



**Resolution One: I will live for God.
Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will.
Jonathan Edwards**

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2015

New Years Trivia

1. What does the song "Auld Lang Syne" mean?
2. The _____ of "Auld Lang Syne" is also the home of _____ a rousing Scottish New Year's celebration.
3. Why are Guy Lombardo and the Royal Canadians significant for the popular playing of "Auld Lang Syne" at midnight?
4. When was the first New Year's Eve ball dropped in New York's Times Square?
5. How much did the original ball weigh?
6. Dillsburg, Pennsylvania celebrates by dropping a _____.
7. Pope Gregory XIII re-established January 1 as New Year's Day in _____.
8. In our area a number of people celebrate the New Year with pork and sauerkraut. What food(s) are used in celebration by
 - A. Spain _____
 - B. Italy _____
 - C. Southern United States _____
 - D. Greece _____
 - E. Sweden/Norway _____
9. In Greece, New Year's day is also the Festival of _____, one of the founders of the _____.
10. Why is it lucky to be born on New Year's Day?
11. It is noted that about 45% of Americans make New Year resolutions. What are the most popular?
12. What is the average number of participants in Philadelphia's Mummers Parade each year?
13. The Rose Parade in CA, features floats using about how many flowers?
14. Ancient Egyptians celebrated the new year when _____.
15. Julius Caesar made January 1st the beginning of the new year in _____, but New England colonists did not recognize January 1st as the start of the new year until _____.
16. London, England celebrates the new year by _____.
17. It is estimated that _____% of people say a prayer on New Year's Eve.
18. When did the Roman Catholic's adopt the Georgian calendar?
19. Ancient Persians gave gifts of _____ which signified productivity.
20. Setting off fireworks for New Year's celebrations were done to _____.

See <http://www.history.com>, <http://www.cnn.com>, and <http://www.factmonster.com> for the answers.

The following excerpt is from
<http://www.annieshomepage.com/newyears.html>

A New Year - A New Beginning

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down,
 and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
 a time to mourn, and a time to dance;"
 ~Ecclesiastes 3:1-4~

God only promises us today. We don't know what is ahead of us. But God knows.
 He doesn't always show us what is in store for us or even if we will have a tomorrow.
 So we should live our lives as if each day is the last.

How terrible it would be to live your whole life and in the end be full of regret.

What a privilege we have as Christians. We don't have to trust in ourselves or our New Year Resolutions. There really is no such thing as LUCK. For God is a God of order and plan. He knows us better than we know ourselves. He even knew us before we were born. (Psalm 139). We can trust in the Lord.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place

whence I caused you to be carried away captive."
 ~Jeremiah 29:11-14~

The words in the above verse are so very comforting. The Lord "KNOWS" the plans He has for us. He is Omnipotent and Omnipresent. The study of the Character of God is such a awesome Bible study. Just that He KNOWS. I also am reminded of the verse when Abraham asked who He was and God answered "I am that I am". He is and we are. Isn't that so profound and yet amazing at the same time.

When I look at the vastness of the universe that the Lord God created I am overwhelmed with His love for me. What comfort, what peace and yes what joy.
 To think that He would have sent His son to die just for me and you.

We can daily go to God and ask for forgiveness and He wipes the slate clean.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
 ~1 John 1:9~

The above verse is written to believers.
 What a wonderful promise we have.

Isn't this the way to start your NEW YEAR?

With your sins confessed and forgiven. The word of God also says that:

"For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."
 ~Psalm 103:11-12~

Always remember that the Lord God is FAITHFUL
and JUST, but most
importantly GOD IS LOVE. Notice here that God IS
Love.

The word IS is a verb an action word.

"Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with
benefits,
even the God of our salvation. Selah."
~Psalm 68:19~

This year lets TRUST the Lord to lead and guide us.

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way
which thou shalt
go: I will guide thee with mine eye."
~Psalm 32:8~

My prayer and hope for you this new year 2010 is
that you are encouraged you to live by faith.
Remember that the Word of God tells us that
"faith is the substance of things hoped for and the
evidence of
things unseen". Take these words and memorize
them and ponder them in your heart!

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen."
~Hebrews 11:1~

What do you have faith in?
Who do you have faith in?

Remember the song.....

"....my hope is built on nothing less than Jesus
Christ and righteousness.

I need no other argument I need no other plea it is
enough that Jesus died and that He died for me."

Let's start this New Year fresh. If you do not know
Jesus Christ
as your personal savior..... let me invite you to
become a Christian.

It's as easy as ABC to give your heart to the Lord.

All you have to do is:

Admit you are a sinner. Romans 3:23
Believe Jesus died on the cross for you. Acts 16:31
Confess your sin to God and turn from it. Romans
10:9

If you are a Christian.....it is time for you to de-
cide. Will you turn the
control of your life over to the Lord? Will you let
Him guide and direct you?

"The heart which has no agenda but God's is the
heart at leisure from itself."
~~Elisabeth Elliot~~

"After all the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it's
sometimes easy to feel
spiritually drained and dry. The psalmist sings that
the one who
meditates on God's law day and night is like a tree
that never
knows winter, planted as it is by streams of water."
~~Harriet Crosby~~ in A Well-Watered Garden

"God will never lead you where His strength can-
not keep you."
~Barbara Johnson~

I was studying and looking up verses and the Lord
brought a thought to my mind.
What does God expect from us or What does God
want us to do ?

So I decided to go the Bible the inspired word of
God and find out.
God's word is very specific about the answer.

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and
what doth the LORD
require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy,
and to
walk humbly with thy God?"
~Micah 6:8~

To: Members and Friends, Elimsport and St. John's Methodist Churches:

On behalf of the recipients, volunteers and Board of Directors at the Son Light House, "Thank You" for the generous donation of cereal and clothing that we received 12/13/2014 and \$300.00 received on 12/17/14.

They [cereal and clothing] will be distributed for Christmas on December 17 and 18 at the Son Light House. Thank you for all donations of food and monetary contributions we have received this year at the Son Light House.

Your thoughtful support in helping our ongoing mission at the Son Light House is truly appreciated.

The month of November, 691 households received food and clothing or 1,746 individuals, 555 youth, 892 adults, 299 seniors 60+ and 13 new households registered in November at Son Light House

Son Light House depends on the community and local support with both food and monetary donations and not to forget our volunteers making it possible to provide this service to the many families in need during the year.

Gratefully,
Ken and Delores Frey
Directors, Son Light House

Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank you for the college care packages. It is so nice to know that we have the thoughts, prayers, and support of our church family while we are away at school. We had plenty of treats to last us through the long week of finals.

Thank you again,
Hannah & Ashela Lovell

Dear Fellow Believers:

Praise the Lord and Greetings! We would like to say a special thank you for your generosity in giving to Sojourn Truth Ministries. You have truly been a blessing, it is only through your financial support and prayers that we are able to continue to do what we do to be the hands and feet of Jesus that He called us to be. We pray that God continues to bless you and your loved ones throughout the upcoming year.

In His Loving Service,
Pastor Velinda Smith, Director of Services.



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the care package during finals week. Also thank you for the prayers and cards when I had surgery. It is greatly appreciated and great to know I have a caring church family behind me.

Michelle Waughen

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the care package during finals week. It definitely helped me through that stressful week, and was also a reminder of how lucky I am to have grown up in a great church. It means a lot knowing the support I have behind me.

Tiffany Waughen



Upcoming Dates To Remember:

Sunday, January 4th

Communion Sunday

Sunday, January 18th 4:00 pm

Parish Birthday Party

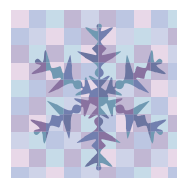
Thursday, January 15th 6:00pm

Council of Ministry Meeting

Youth Fellowship Happenings for December/January

Jan 4		No meeting.
Jan 11	6:30pm	Meeting at the church
Jan 16	12:00pm	Winter Jam at State College.
Jan 18	6:30pm	Meeting at the church
Jan 25	TBA	Grow On Rally at Bloomsburg

Call or email Tweet with any questions.



Clearances Update

Beginning January 1, 2015 we will be updating our clearances for all paid and volunteer workers who work with children and youth in our parish. There are some changes being made so please watch for further information regarding clearances.

Elimsport Volunteers

Greeters for January

Jan.	4	Ethel Starr
Jan.	11	Frank Voneida
Jan.	18	Carlene Moore
Jan.	25	Tweet Flick



Directories

Directories will be printed in the new year. If you have contact information that should be updated, please send it to the church office by January 11th.

- Items for February's newsletter are due January 20th.
- Items for the weekly bulletin's need to be to the church office by Thursday **morning** each week.
(Items received after these dates are not guaranteed to be printed.)

ELIMSPORT VALLEY UNITED METHODIST PARISH

Worship Schedule:

Elimsport UMC

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:30 am

St. John's UMC

Sunday School 9:15 am
Worship 10:30 am

Parish Youth Group

Check weekly Bulletin for current schedule and events
(at Elimsport)

Parish Bible Study

Varies according to the season.

Parish Office:

16145S. RT 44 HWY
Allenwood, PA 17810

Parsonage Phone:

(570) 547-1386

Pastor Mike's Cell:

(570) 974-8590

Parish Website: www.evpumc.org

Parish email:

elimsportumc@gmail.com

www.evpumc.org



Our Mission Statement at Elimsport UMC



We gather together as a community of Christian believers to worship, fellowship, and to learn more about God. By the unity of the Spirit and the support of each other, we are able to reach out to the community and the world.

Our Mission Statement St. John's UMC



The purpose of St. John's is to both evangelize and nurture. We are called to show God's love in our world by giving aid and by spreading the Good News of Christ. We in turn provide an atmosphere for nurturing where Biblical truths are shared enabling people to become spiritually enriched. By providing this, people will learn and through learning, become more effective witnesses.